

MAINE STATE HARNESS RACING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
JUNE 23, 2017

Gambling Control Board Conference Room
Department of Public Safety
45 Commerce Drive, Augusta, Maine

Commission Members Present: William Varney, Chair, William McFarland, Gary Reed, and Michael Graham

Commission Members Absent: Alexander Willette

Staff Members Present: Ron Guay, AAG, Henry Jennings, Carol Gauthier, Miles Greenleaf, Dennis May, and Zachary Matzkin

1. Call the Meeting to Order and Introductions: William Varney, Chair

2. Review and Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Graham made a motion to approve the minutes of May 19, 2017. Commissioner McFarland seconded. Vote 4-0.

Review and Approval of Decision and Orders

Commissioner McFarland made a motion to approve the Decision and Order for Scott Niles complaint number 2016 MSHRC 28 as written. Commissioner Reed seconded. Vote 4-0.

Commissioner Graham made a motion to approve the Decision and Order for Stanley Whittemore complaint number 2016 MSHRC 26. Commissioner McFarland seconded. Vote 4-0.

Commissioner McFarland made a motion to approve the Decision and Order for William DuBois complaint number 2016 MSHRC 14 as written. Commissioner Reed seconded. Vote 4-0.

Commissioner Graham made a motion to approve the Decision and Order for Edward Fournier complaint number 2017 MSHRC. Commissioner McFarland seconded. Vote 4-0.

3. Adjudicatory Hearings:

AAG, Guay stated that the Edward Fournier decision and order would be a good idea for the department to circulate to the race secretaries and to the judges because it gives guidance in terms of draws which previously the judges thought they didn't have authority in terms of review. The Commission has made a decision in this case concerning the improper way to conduct a draw and if there are protests of draws, the judges would have that guidance.

a. RE: Reopening the 2017 Race Date Hearing. Pursuant to 8 M.R.S. § 271, § 275-N and Commission Rule Chapter 19, Section 10, the Commission may reopen the race dates and licensing hearing upon a motion of a licensee to take testimony relative to the assignment of race dates for 2017 regarding Oxford County Agricultural Society; Oxford Fair. AAG, Guay stated that he received a call from Mr. Jennings and Mr. Jackson who represents the Oxford Fair. The Oxford Fair voted at their meeting to withdraw their surrender of their race dates. Mr. Jennings stated that the department has received an email to rescind their dates. AAG, Guay stated that this matter has been dismissed for mootness.

b. RE: Steven Vafiades, Preliminary Denial of 2017 Groom License Application

Mr. Vafiades is appealing the decision of a Preliminary Denial of his 2017 application for licensing as a groom. The Preliminary Denial was issued pursuant to Chapter 1, Section 10, Subsection 10 (D), Chapter 17, Section 1, 2, 8, and 12. Steven Vafiades was present and Craig Rancourt represented Mr. Vafiades. AAG, Guay opened up the hearing in the matter

of Steven Vafiades. AAG, Guay qualified the Commissioners. Commissioner Varney stated that he has a business relationship with him so he would recuse himself from the hearing. AAG, Guay gave Mr. Vafiades his oath. Mr. Jennings presented the following exhibits. Exhibit 1, Notice of Hearing; Exhibit 2, Groom's Application for 2017; Exhibit 3, Preliminary Denial Letter, and Exhibit 4 Excerpt from the April 26, 2016 Decision and Order of the Consolidated Cobalt cases. AAG, Guay admitted the exhibits with no objection. Mr. Rancourt had no exhibits. AAG, Guay asked if an appeal was made in a timely manner. Mr. Jennings stated yes. AAG, Guay stated that the state has the burden of proof. Mr. Jennings stated that it's the state's position that prohibited substance violations have been very detrimental to Maine's harness racing industry, and that those violations have cast tarnish over the industry at a time when the public perception about the harness racing industry is low and is a critical importance to the future of the industry. So the department feels it's important to take firm and consistence stance on the enforcement of prohibited substances; and it is their position there are multiple sections of Chapter 17 that suggest that the department has the right to deny a license to someone who is under suspension. It's also the departments thought that allowing a suspended trainer into the paddock essentially makes the suspension moot and meaningless because once you are in the paddock there's nothing which determines which roll you play. There is no one their policing it. AAG, Guay asked Mr. Rancourt if he had an opening statement. Mr. Rancourt reserved his right to opening remarks until the department presents their evidence. Mr. Jennings stated that before calling his first witness, if you look at Chapter 1, Section 10, Subsection 10. D listed in the notice of hearing which relates to whether or not a license should be issued to someone who is currently suspended. He called Miles Greenleaf. AAG, Guay gave Mr. Greenleaf his oath. Mr. Jennings asked questions of Mr. Greenleaf. Mr. Greenleaf stated that Mr. Vafiades has not paid his fine. Mr. Rancourt asked what the base of the preliminary denial was. Mr. Greenleaf stated that the fine was unpaid, and Mr. Vafiades is currently under suspension for the consolidated Cobalt cases, and what is also stated in the notice of hearing. AAG, Guay stated that at the conclusion of the case he will run down the bases for the Commissioners. Mr. Rancourt stated that Mr. Vafiades is here today asking for a groom's license. He has served well over a third of his sentence. He also has been hurt by the decision and order and that has had a severe impact to his family. Mr. Rancourt called Mr. Vafiades. Mr. Rancourt asked questions of Mr. Vafiades. Mr. Vafiades stated that he has been in the harness racing industry since he was 12 years old. He stated that he has served around 150 days of his suspension. Penn National dba Bangor Raceway stated to Ms. Vafiades that she is unfit to race at their facility because she is married to Mr. Vafiades. Mr. Vafiades stated that he has not paid his fine of \$2,250.00 but he would make payment arrangements if he is able to work as a groom. AAG, Guay asked the parties if Mr. Vafiades would stipulate that within the last two years Mr. Vafiades has not had a groom's license. Mr. Jennings and Mr. Rancourt both stated yes. AAG, Guay asked if both parties stipulate that the department does allow people who owe money to be licensed on a payment plan. Mr. Jennings and Mr. Rancourt both stated yes. Mr. Rancourt stated that in his closing remarks that Mr. Vafiades is in tough financial strains. This has affected his family and he has been discriminated by other racetracks. He is asking the Commission to extend a helping hand. Mr. Rancourt also stated that Mr. Eric Bickmore and Mr. Drew Campbell had received a license while under suspension. Mr. Jennings stated that he has an obligation to the industry. In the consolidated Cobalt case, Mr. Vafiades had 15 positives and he got the minimum for 3 and no other sanctions for the others. He got the best deal out of the 4 licenses. This industry is in a critical phase and the survival of this industry is important. One of the things that has hurt this industry is the tarnished reputation related to the prohibited substance. The department takes the position that a suspended trainer should not

be allowed into the paddock. AAG, Guay asked for the qualifications of a groom, is there any dispute from a skills perspective and qualification perspective other than those cited here in the notice of hearing that Mr. Vafiades would be qualified for the license. Mr. Jennings stated no. AAG, Guay closed the hearing for deliberations. He read the rule from Chapter 17, Section 8 Unfitness to Participate. Mr. Jennings read Chapter 17, Section 2 Licensing and License Renewals. AAG, Guay read Chapter 17, Section 2, Subsection 1, C. Commissioner Graham stated that his opinion is the confidence of the wagering public is really important and we have had problems with in the last few years. Fifteen positives in Cobalt he thinks it would be a real detriment to the harness racing industry if we gave Mr. Vafiades a groom's license. Commissioner McFarland agrees with Commissioner Graham and with the states position with respect to putting an individual back into the paddock area as a result of giving a license. That would not send a very good message to the wagering public or any of the other licensing individuals within the industry. Commissioner Reed also agreed with the sentiments expressed by his colleagues. The magnitude of the initial violation is widely known. He cannot support that. Commissioner Graham made a motion to deny Mr. Vafiades appeal based on Chapter 17, Section 2. Commissioner McFarland seconded. Vote 3-0. Commissioner Varney recused himself.

- c. **RE: Eric Davis, Complaint Number 2017 MSHRC 4.** Mr. Davis is alleged to have violated MSHRC Rules Chapter 7 and 11. Mr. Davis is trainer of record for the horse "Nabber Again". A blood sample obtained from Nabber Again following the Sixth Race at Bangor Raceway on May 24, 2017 disclosed an elevated level of Boldenone. Eric Davis was present and representing himself. AAG, Guay qualified the Commissioners for both cases, 2017 MSHRC 4 & 2017 MSHRC 5. He gave Mr. Davis his oath. Mr. Jennings wanted the cases to be separate. Mr. Jennings presented the following exhibits. Exhibit 1, Notice of Hearing; Exhibit 2, Signed Waiver; Exhibit 3, Owner/Driver/Trainer License Application; Exhibit 4, Race Program; Exhibit 5, Notice of Positive Test; Exhibit 6, Sample Tag; Exhibit 7, Sample Shipment Sheet; Exhibit 8, LGC Laboratory Certificate, and Exhibit 9, ARCI Guidelines. AAG, Guay admitted the exhibits without objection. Mr. Davis had no exhibits. AAG, Guay asked Mr. Davis if he admits to being the trainer of record for the horse "Nabber Again" on May 24, 2017, and that the horse "Nabber Again" raced in the six race at Bangor Raceway on May 24, 2017. Mr. Davis stated yes. AAG, Guay asked Mr. Davis if he admits to the horse "Nabber Again" having in its system boldenone. Mr. Davis stated no to the prohibited substance. AAG, Guay stated that the department will have to prove that the horse had boldenone in its system. Mr. Jennings stated that he would point to the chain of custody documents and the lab analysis certificate. There was no request for a split sample. The substance was administered sometime before the race. AAG, Guay asked Mr. Davis if he admits to the violation. Mr. Davis admits to the horse having boldenone in its system but he did not administer the drug. AAG, Guay asked the Commissioners to make a determination if there was a violation or not. Commissioner Graham made a motion that there was a violation. Commissioner McFarland seconded. Vote 4-0. Mr. Davis stated that he bought the horse off from Mr. Parker in New York. He also wanted to point out that both of his tests were within three days of purchasing the horse. He had no prior knowledge that the drug was in it system. AAG, Guay stated that Mr. Davis made a motion to combine the two cases. Mr. Jennings stated that the state is trying to be very consistent of how they approach all of these cases. He called Zachary Matzkin. AAG, Guay gave Dr. Matzkin his oath. Mr. Jennings asked questions of Dr. Matzkin. Dr. Matzkin stated that boldenone is a long acting anabolic steroid administered in an oil base form. The lab told him this is very consistent with the horse haven gotten it weeks before. AAG, Guay stated the trainer is responsible for the horse. He denied Mr. Davis' motion to combine the two cases because

he is responsible for the horse. Commissioner Varney asked what the legal limit is. Dr. Matzkin stated 25. He stated that Dr. Sams said that if Mr. Davis gave the horse a typical dose the level would have been much higher. Mr. Davis stated that he gave a voluntary sample to Dr. Matzkin for testing and the horse is back to where he should be. He knows the rules are the rules and the levels always went down. Commissioner Varney asked AAG, Guay if they could go to the next case before the penalty phase. AAG, Guay stated yes.

AAG, Guay opened the hearing on Eric Davis, complaint number 2017 MSHRC 5. The Commissioners have already been qualified. Mr. Davis had no objection to the hearing. Mr. Jennings presented the following exhibits. Exhibit 1, Notice of Hearing; Exhibit 2, Signed Waiver; Exhibit 3, Owner/Driver/Trainer License Application; Exhibit 4, Race Program; Exhibit 5, Notice of Positive Test; Exhibit 6, Sample Tag; Exhibit 7, Sample Shipment Sheet; Exhibit 8, LGC Laboratory Certificate, and Exhibit 9, ARCI Guidelines. AAG, Guay admitted the exhibits without objection. He asked Mr. Davis if he admits to being the trainer of record of the horse “Nabber Again” and that the horse raced at Scarborough Downs on May 27, 2017 and that the horse had boldenone in its system. Mr. Davis stated yes to the above. AAG, Guay asked Mr. Davis if he had any witnesses. Mr. Davis had none. AAG, Guay asked Mr. Jennings what the state recommends for both cases for a penalty. Mr. Jennings stated that the state recommends a minimum penalty under Chapter 17 as a Class B is a \$500 fine, 15 day suspension, and return of the purse. The second violation goes to 30 days, \$1,000 fine, and return of the purse. AAG, Guay asked Mr. Jennings if the state recommends the minimum no matter what it is are you going to treat them all the same. Mr. Jennings stated yes. Mr. Davis stated he understands the purse has to be returned and it was a three day span, but if he had of known about the drug he would have taken the horse out of the box. AAG, Guay closed the hearing for deliberations. Commissioner Graham believes Mr. Davis was not the guilty party. Commissioner McFarland agrees with Mr. Jennings. He asked what the actual cost would be for testing. Dr. Matzkin stated that the test could run from \$50 to \$200 each. Commissioner Varney asked Dr. Matzkin what the timeframe is for getting the test done. Dr. Matzkin stated that by the time the lab gets the sample they officially have 10 days to report to the commission the results, but normally they run the screens within a few days. Commissioner Varney asked if the sample has to go to the current lab or can a local veterinarian check it? Dr. Matzkin stated that he wouldn’t recommend it. If you want to know what our lab would find, then you should have it tested at our lab. AAG, Guay asked Dr. Matzkin if the department helps get the test done. Dr. Matzkin stated that they can and we offer that. There is a procedure where we can help them get the sample or they can bring them the sample. We can submit it like we always do which is what the lab wants. There is a procedure for the trainer to pay them directly. Commissioner Varney asked if anyone has any questions or comments. Commissioner Graham stated that maybe whatever we decide in this case that we should maybe send a letter to the associations saying that from now on if you are concerned about getting a horse from out of state that you need to contact the state veterinarian to get a test done before you race the horse in Maine. Commissioner Varney made a motion to consolidate the two cases and fine Mr. Davis a \$500 fine, 15 days suspension with days suspended, and return of both purses within 30 days. Mr. Davis’ next positive would be his second positive. Commissioner Reed seconded. Vote 4-0.

- d. **RE: Eric Davis, Complaint Number 2017 MSHRC 5.** Mr. Davis is alleged to have violated MSHRC Rules Chapter 7 and 11. Mr. Davis is trainer of record for the horse “Nabber Again”. A blood sample obtained from Nabber Again following the Fifth Race at

Scarborough Downs on May 27, 2017 disclosed an elevated level of Boldenone. See complaint number 2017 MSHRC 4.

4. Other business:

- a. **Request by Kevin Gee to Address the Commission.** Mr. Gee has requested an opportunity to address the Commission about its policy requiring the return of the entire purse when the owner only receives 90% of it. Mr. Gee would also like to address the Commission about variability of prohibited substance sanctions. Mr. Jennings stated that Mr. Gee has asked to table this item to the next meet. Commissioner Varney stated that this item would be continued.
- b. **Rulemaking Priorities.** The Commission will review other rulemaking options to determine its next priorities. Mr. Jennings stated that Chapter 7 is a priority because it doesn't line up with Chapter 17 very well. He also stated that Chapters 1, 3, 19, and 21 are chapters the staff wants to look at. He stated that maybe we could have public information gathering sessions which is something you can do prior to filing an agency rulemaking proposal. Maybe in the next two meetings, allow the public to come in and discuss with you what their priorities are and layout what the Commissioners priorities are. The Commissioners stated that they would go along with that suggestion. AAG, Guay stated that one area that strikes him as he has been writing the decisions that would be helpful is some of the rules have default positions. He suggest that one of the issues is if you do any change to Chapter 17 that the default is that the definition of suspended days shall be days within the first day of the meet and the last day of the meet for any licenses for the year, and to the extent that the suspension would to go past the remaining license year that it would take effect at the beginning of the next meet. Commissioner Varney stated for example if somebody were suspended in November and we gave them 180 days, those would be days that start for the rest of that year and then they would start again the next year. AAG, Guay stated what days count towards the suspension. Right now days when there is no racing in Maine count. That is the default. Change it to only days when there is racing in Maine. Commissioner Varney stated that he wanted to be clear that they should be suspended and the days would be counted only when we're racing in Maine. AAG, Guay stated just to be clear the suspension only becomes effective when you vote on the written decision.
- c. **Consideration of Allocating Additional Funds to Marketing.** On January 23, 2017, the Executive Director reviewed the "Annual Report on Use of Funds" in front of the Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. Committee members expressed concern about the lack of progress on the part of the harness racing industry in better promoting itself and working toward self-reliance. The Executive Director stated that improving marketing is an industry priority and that it was exploring ideas. Some constituents favor utilizing additional Commission funds as part of that effort. Mr. Jennings stated that when he went in front of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee to present the annual report on use of funds he got grilled a bit about the cascade that comes towards the harness racing industry and the press has not necessarily been supportive. The committee asked what is the Commission doing to promote its industry and work towards becoming more sustainable? He said that the commission has had some industry meetings and that part of the equation was ways of looking at maybe race less in the State of Maine in terms of the horse supply and also that would raise the purses. The commission is also looking at trying to do a better job of marketing this industry. Mr. Jennings stated that Randy Labbe a horsemen that has returned to harness racing has volunteered to work with us. He can show

us how we can start to use social media which is a low cost way of trying to reach out to a demographic that we are not hitting at all. There are three entities that are marketing harness racing. You have the Maine Harness Racing Promotional Board, Maine Standardbred Breeders and Owner's Association, and the Maine Harness Horsemen's Association. If you agree that there should be some additional funding spent by the commission in this respect than there will be four entities. Mr. Jennings stated that he is focusing on marketing this industry. He is also looking at ways to reduce cost of holding a meet. There are at least five fairs that are on teetering on the brink and part of it is it's expensive to hold a meet. He checked with the lawyers in the department and they feel that we have the ability and the latitude to go ahead and try to work on marketing and spend some money. He asked the Commissioners if they support some level of commitment of funds for marketing. Commissioner Graham made a motion to fund \$10,000.00 for marketing. Commissioner Varney seconded. Vote 4-0.

- d. **Interpretation of Commission Rule Chapter 7, Section 31, Coupled Entries.** Questions have arisen about the meaning, application, and enforcement of Commission Rule Chapter 7, Section 31, Coupled Entries. For instance, can a trainer transfer a horse to a different trainer for the purposes of entering multiple horses in a race? What does the term "stable" mean in this context? The Commission staff is seeking guidance on the intent and administration of this section. Mr. Jennings stated that he has gotten a number of questions about trainers that have a large group of horses with multiple owners, and what has happened is that horses from one trainer now are getting switched to another trainer; and we are getting two horses in the same race that originally were from the same trainer. What he doesn't understand is if it is part of the same stable. We never defined stable in statute or rule. He stated he didn't understand what a stable is. Commissioner Varney stated that if they are separate ownership they can switch trainers.

Mr. Jennings was asked by a fair if the ambulance needs to be at the fair on site. The fair stated that a paramedic cost half as much as an ambulance. Mr. Jennings asked what the Commission would like the fair to do. Commissioner McFarland stated that an ambulance should be on site one hour before racing until the races end. Maybe that venue should get a sponsor to have an ambulance on site. Commissioner Reed stated no on site because of the cost involved. Commissioner Graham stated yes. Commissioner Varney stated ambulance on site. The consensus is to have an ambulance on site.

5. Reports

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Jennings stated that LD 1532 has been approved and the effective date is Monday, June 26, 2017. The major point is that it allows for the reduction in race dates at commercial tracks.

Mr. Jennings also stated that the state steward is on medical leave and he and Mr. Greenleaf are covering for Mr. Canney while he is out on leave.

Mr. Jennings stated that there was a complaint on amateur drivers. There is nothing in our rules that says we regulate them.

Mr. Jennings stated that he is hoping to start up the harness racing industry meetings in two weeks.

Mr. Jennings asked if we could open up the hearing early and just carry it on for several meetings.

AAG, Guay stated that he has never done a contested race date hearing. He thinks the department and the parties got really good at developing a consensus. If the Commissioners have a concern, they can make adjustments. This body is not intended to be a work body. They call balls and strikes. Why can't the executive director and the tracks work on reducing the number of race dates and come to the Commission for approval? Mr. Jennings stated that he doesn't see why they can't but his concern is that all of the entities have their own vested interest and that getting them to all

agree on a process of reducing the race dates might be... AAG, Guay stated that it's hard to do and that's why they need to stay out of it because if people can't agree then the Commissioners need to call balls and strikes. If they are part of the meeting, it would put them in a more difficult position because if there is a dispute these gentlemen have to decide what the answer is. Commissioner Varney stated that he does agree with AAG, Guay. It is the job of the department to get the people together and if they can't agree the Commissioners will decide.

6. Public Comment

Commissioner Varney asked for public comment. Michael Sweeney asked if the money that was approved for marketing is that additional money going into the budget or was it already approved. Commissioner Varney stated that it was already in the budget. Mr. Sweeney stated what Mr. Jennings was talking about the passage of 1532 and it's now part of statute here in the State of Maine, and it allows a number of things to occur at this time. Foremost in his mind, it allows the Commission to establish a minimum number of race dates for commercial tracks. AAG, Guay stated that Scarborough Downs needs to file a motion to reopen the race date hearing. You would reopen for the limited purposes of changing the award of race dates. Notice would go out 10 days prior to all of the other licensees and intervenors. Mr. Sweeney asked if he could make that request at this point. AAG, Guay stated that this is a good enough notice. Mr. Jennings asked Mr. Sweeney if he is making that request. Mr. Sweeney stated that he is making that request on behalf of Davric Maine that the race dates be reopened for the purpose of reducing the statutorily number of race dates that Scarborough Downs is required to race in 2017. Mr. Jennings asked if July 21st would work for him. Mr. Sweeney stated yes. Mr. Sweeney also stated that he did not hear Mr. Jennings mention Chapter 13 which is the pari-mutuel section. There are very few changes that were recommended in there but they were important changes given the shortage of horses in the state; mainly being able to run trifecta wagering on 5 horse fields and decreasing the number of horses that are necessary to have a superfecta race.

Diann Perkins stated that the MSBOA has sire stakes races scheduled for Friday, June 30th and Scarborough has not been racing on Fridays so she wanted to know if they could transfer those races to Saturday. Mr. Sweeney stated that they are trying to draw a card on Friday and include the sire stakes races on that condition sheet, and if for some reason they can't draw a card for Friday they will draw the sire stakes races and then carry them over to Saturday. Ms. Perkins stated that there are additions to the sire stakes nominations. There are 2 additions to both the 2 and 3 year olds and one new stallion. She also stated that the officials need to be aware that these horses need to have coggins test. Ms. Perkins stated that the Maine Breeders are talking about hiring a social media person who knows about marketing and the breeders do have money for marketing and they feel they have not been doing a good job. She also wanted to know if they can do out-of-competition testing for the sire stakes finalist.

William Kasabuski asked as a rookie trainer he enters his horse and looks to see who he races against as a trainer. It is really depressing to a new person coming into this business to try to race against professional barns that have 20 or 30 horses. He also stated that he would like to go back a year ago when his groom lost a horse that he bought from New York that dropped dead on the racetrack. There was no autopsy done on the horse. If there had been an autopsy done on the horse, it would have tested positive. Mr. Davis got caught here today. Unless you have your horse tested as you buy it the day you claim it; it's your loss. Commissioner Varney asked what his solution would be buying a horse from New York. Mr. Kasabuski stated that any element of doubt that that man could persuade him to buy a horse. The mandate would be the horse needs to be tested before you could claim it and who do you put that cost on. Commissioner Varney stated that the old saying of "buyer beware". If he was a buyer in New York, he'd beware and he would certainly test it before he bought it or brought it home or raced it.

Dr. Matzkin stated that he would comment on Ms. Perkins suggestion. Testing 40 horses with the rules that we have in place that means he has to do it and either Mr. Greenleaf or one of the stewards has to be there. He also stated that the whole point of out-of-competition testing doesn't really work if they know we are coming, and the only drugs that they are allowed to penalize for in out-of-competition testing are the blood doping drugs. Carolyn Corso stated that she explained to Ms. Perkins about the blurb she read at the Meadowlands for their big races this year when you enter your horse in the box you must say where the horse is being stabled, and then that horse would be subject to out-of-competition testing. Dr. Matzkin stated that if you put the horse in the detention

barn for five days before the race you are hopefully preventing them from getting anything at all. Our rules are very specific; you can only test for out-of-competition for a very small set of drugs. Michael Timmons stated that when you look at the rest of June, July, and August you have 20 more days of back to back racing with Scarborough, Northern Maine, Bangor, Topsham, Skowhegan, Union, and Windsor. It is a fact with the horse population the way it is as hard as it is to make it work. Therefore, it does rest on the commission's responsibility when we present all of these dates that it doesn't seem to make sense to allow two venues to go at the same time. It is critical for Scarborough and Bangor to race during the summer. Maybe we need to really look at what you are going to do and how many venues you are going to allow to race at the same time. If we open up the race dates to reduce the days, does that mean the money from the racino/casino need to be revisited and refigured? He is worried for his own fairgrounds. He is not sure about the future. Mr. Jennings stated to the Commissioners that there is a survey in your folders from Steve Thompson that he did online, and he thinks it relates to the marketing question before them. There are some suggestions in there.

9. Schedule of Future Meetings:

July 21, 2017

August 18, 2017

September 22, 2017

10. Adjourn

12:13 p.m.